

The lowest temperatures were observed mainly from the 25th to 28th from the middle and lower Mississippi Valley eastward, while from the Great Plains westward they were experienced chiefly from the 29th to 31st. Temperatures of 32° or lower were observed in all the States, though considerable areas in the Gulf and South Atlantic States and the lower elevations of the Southwest and California were without freezing temperatures. The lowest observed was -10°, at a high elevation in Colorado.

Frosts, save those of late September in the more northern districts, were mainly delayed until well after the average date, and most crops not injured at that time matured without injury from cold.

PRECIPITATION

The distribution of rainfall was, in a measure, similar to that of September as to comparison with the normal, there being an excess over a large area from the southern Plains northeastward through the middle Mississippi and Ohio Valleys, and generally over the Great Lakes area and to the eastward, as was the case in September, though the excesses were usually much less than in that month. Also the Middle and East Gulf and South Atlantic States had less than normal and this was also the case in September.

In general it was a month with precipitation above normal over a large majority of the States, though the total fall was distinctly less than was received in September.

In a few instances, notably in the vicinity of Lake Erie, and over the eastern portions of Kansas and Oklahoma and in western Arkansas, it was the wettest or nearly the wettest October of record. On the other hand, it was among the driest in the middle portions of the Plateau.

Continued rains over many portions of the central valleys and to the eastward during the first week still further delayed farming operations and caused additional damage to crops not yet gathered, by flooding or otherwise.

SNOWFALL

No important or unusual falls of snow were reported, which is in sharp contrast with conditions existing in October, 1925, when over large areas the snowfall occurred earlier and to greater depths than ever before recorded in the mid-autumn month.

Depths up to 10 inches or slightly more occurred in the mountains of northern New York and somewhat less fell in the interior and northern portions of New England. In the upper Lake region and thence to eastern North Dakota the total depths ranged up to 5 inches, and in a few localities up to 10 inches. In the Rocky Mountains there was more or less snow, extreme depths at some of the higher levels ranging up to 10 inches and in a few instances to as much as 15 inches or slightly more.

There was little snow over the northern mountain districts or in the Plateau and Pacific Coast States, save in the high Sierra of central California where a few localities had total falls ranging up to 5 or 10 inches. Little snow remained on the ground at the end of the month save in the mountain districts.

RELATIVE HUMIDITY

The percentage of relative humidity was above normal to a considerable extent in the far Southwest and over most of the areas to the northeastward and eastward, save along the Atlantic and Gulf coast districts where there were mainly small deficiencies. Over the Missouri Valley and thence west to the Pacific relative humidity was generally less than normal.

SEVERE LOCAL HAIL AND WIND STORMS, OCTOBER, 1926

[The table herewith contains such data as have been received concerning severe local storms that occurred during the month. A more complete statement will appear in the Annual Report of the Chief of Bureau]

Place	Date	Time	Width of path, yards ¹	Loss of life	Value of property destroyed	Character of storm	Remarks	Authority
Humboldt, Iowa.....	1	1 a. m.				Probably a tornado.	Dwellings, garages, and plate-glass windows damaged to the extent of several thousand dollars.	Official, U. S. Weather Bureau.
Independence, Kans.....	1	3:30-4 p. m.	4 mi.		\$1,500	Hail.....	Damage chiefly to cotton crop and window glass. Path 4 miles long.	Do.
Sandusky County, Ohio.....	1	P. m.				Violent wind and rain.	Trees uprooted; buildings damaged; telephone and telegraph lines blown down; many orchards badly injured; car service interrupted.	Do.
Dawson County, Tex. (southwest part of).	2	7 p. m.	3 mi.			Straight winds....	Several windmills and weak buildings wrecked; cotton blown out. Path 15 miles long.	Do.
Cloverport, Ky.....	4					Wind.....	Character of damage not reported.	Do.
Lansing (near), Mich.....	4					Tornadic wind....	Damage to trees, buildings, and fences resulted.	Do.
Willet, N. Y.....	5					High wind.....	Windows, trees, and overhead wires considerably damaged.	Do.
Harpersfield Center, N. Y.....	5	Midnight.				Tornadic wind....	Several homes damaged; highways obstructed by fallen trees.	Official, U. S. Weather Bureau; Star (Oneonta, N. Y.)
Kingsley and Hopbottom, Pa., and vicinity.	6					Cloudburst and wind.	Extensive damage to farms, roads, and buildings, principally by flooding.	Scranton Times (Pa.).
Wanamaker, Kans.....	12	A. m.				Heavy hail and rain.	Total damage small, as most crops had matured.	Official, U. S. Weather Bureau.
Key West, Fla.....	20-21				20,000	High wind and rain.	Considerable property damage reported.	Do.
Chandler, Okla., and vicinity.	22	Noon.....	7 mi.		3,000	Moderate to heavy hail.	Some damage to property and minor crop injury over path 8 miles long.	Do.
Okmulgee County, Okla., (southern part of).	22	3-4 p. m.	6 mi.		7,000	Light to heavy hail.	Crops considerably damaged; other losses slight. Path 20 miles long.	Do.
Shiner, Tex.....	23	2:20-2:55 p. m.	5 mi.		15,000	Heavy hail.....	Windows, roofs, and crops seriously damaged; poultry killed or injured; stones weighed from 3 to 8 pounds.	Do.
Rosenberg, Richmond, Sugarland, and Missouri City, Tex.	23	3:30-4 p. m.			100,000	do.....	Cotton stripped, cattle severely injured, and windows broken.	Do.
Wortham, Tex.....	23					Hail and wind....	Windows and roofs damaged; several oil derricks wrecked, one burned by lightning.	Do.
Philadelphia, Pa.....	25					High wind and rain.	Considerable minor damage.	Do.
New Jersey (northern and central parts of).	25					Severe winds and heavy rains.	Much damage to buildings, poles, trees, and signs at various points.	Do.
New York City, N. Y.....	25					High wind.....	A 74-mile wind damaged many windows and paralyzed harbor traffic.	Official, U. S. Weather Bureau; Star (Oneonta, N. Y.)
Irvington-on-Hudson, N. Y..	25			2		do.....	A steam freighter capsized, causing death of two persons.	Official, U. S. Weather Bureau.

¹ "Mi." signifies miles instead of yards.